

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

ARCHITECTURAL IRON WORKERS' LOCAL)
NO. 63 WELFARE FUND, ARCHITECTURAL)
IRON WORKERS' LOCAL NO. 63 DEFINED)
CONTRIBUTION PENSION FUND, and the)
ARCHITECTURAL METAL TRAINEE SCHOOL)
FOR LOCAL NO. 63 AND THE IRON LEAGUE OF)
CHICAGO, INC. and the ARCHITECTURAL and)
ORNAMENTAL IRON WORKERS' UNION)
LOCAL NO. 63,) Case No.:
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)
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Plaintiffs,)
)
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v.)
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)
FENCE CONNECTION, INC.,)
)
)
Defendant.)

COMPLAINT AT LAW

Plaintiffs, the ARCHITECTURAL IRON WORKERS LOCAL NO. 63 WELFARE FUND, et al., by its attorney, Michael J. McGuire, and the law firm of Gregorio & Marco, Ltd., complain of the Defendant, FENCE CONNECTION, INC. and allege as follows:

1. This action arises under Section 502 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and Section 301 of the Taft-Hartley Act. (29 U.S.C. §§1132 and 185). Jurisdiction is founded on the existence of questions arising thereunder.
2. The ARCHITECTURAL AND ORNAMENTAL IRON WORKS LOCAL NO. 63 WELFARE FUND, et al. (collectively referred to as the "Local 63 Trust Funds") receive contributions from numerous employers pursuant to Collective Bargaining Agreements between the employers and the ARCHITECTURAL AND ORNAMENTAL IRON WORKERS' UNION LOCAL NO. 63, ("Local 63 Union").

3. The Local 63 Trust Funds are multi-employer plans as defined under 29 U.S.C. §1002.

4. The Trust Funds are administered in Oak Brook, Illinois and venue is proper in the Northern District of Illinois.

5. The Defendant is an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce, which entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers whose terms require Defendants to pay fringe benefits to the Local Union No. 63 Trust Funds. (**Exhibit A**)

6. The Agreement and the Collective Bargaining Agreements also bind the Defendant to the provisions of the Agreement and Declarations of Trust which created the Iron Workers' Local No. 63 Trust Funds ("Trust Agreements").

7. The Defendant is required to make contributions to the Local 63 Trust Funds for each hour worked by its Iron Worker employees at the rate and in the manner specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Trust Agreement. In addition, the Defendant is required to make contributions to the Local 63 Union measured by the hours worked by Iron Worker employees and/or Local 63 members at the rate and in the manner specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Trust Agreement for the Assessment Fund and IPAL. The Defendant is also liable for subcontracting ironwork to a company which does not pay the contributions.

8. The CBA and Trust Agreements also require the Defendant to submit its book and records to an auditor so that periodic fringe benefit compliance audits can take place to ensure proper fringe benefits are being paid to the Trust Funds.

9. The CBA and Trust Agreements provide that employers who do not timely pay all contributions are also liable for liquidated damages, interest, audit fees, and attorneys' fees.

10. The Defendant, FENCE CONNECTION, INC., breached the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Trust Agreement by failing to submit all required

contributions for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017 as revealed by an audit of Defendant's book and records. A true and correct copy of the audit is attached as

Exhibit B.

11. As a result of said breaches, the Defendant is also liable to the Plaintiffs for the following ancillary damages on top of the fringe benefit contributions:

- a. Attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to the CBA, Trust Agreements and 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2);
- b. Audit fees pursuant to the Trust Agreements; and either
- c. Liquidated damages and interest pursuant to the Trust Agreements and 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2); or
- d. Double interest pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2), whichever is greater.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray:

- A. That the Defendant be ordered to pay all contributions shown to be due as revealed by the audit of Defendant's book and records for the period January 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017.
- B. That the Defendant be ordered to pay the audit fees and attorneys' fees and costs incurred by the Plaintiffs.
- C. That the Defendant be ordered to pay liquidated damages and interest or double interest.
- D. That Plaintiffs have such other and further relief as by the Court may be deemed just and equitable all at the Defendant's cost.

By: /s/ Michael J. McGuire
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